

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, Applicant requests acknowledgement of the Information Disclosure Statement filed December 6, 2005. A copy of the Form PTO-1449 filed with the Information Disclosure Statement is provided for the Examiner's convenience.

Claims 1-2, 4-10, 13-14, 16, 18-19, and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kiyoshi (JP 2001-022899). In response, Applicant amended independent claims 1 and 13 to clarify the second interface is a different type of interface from the first interface, and that a second connector is connected to a connection line between the interface conversion circuit and the memory card device for connecting to an outside connection when connecting with the outside connection using the first interface, and connecting to a disk drive having the first interface when connecting with the outside connection using the second interface, and respectfully traverse the rejection as it applies to the amended claims.

Kiyoshi is directed to a drive device for a disk and memory card. Kiyoshi has a composite device that includes a memory card device 54 and a single interface circuit 55 that are mounted on to the base on which an optical disk drive is mounted. The configuration of Kiyoshi allows connection to an outside connection via a master circuit 58 and slave circuit 59, as shown in Fig. 7. However, Kiyoshi fails to disclose (or suggest) an ATAPI and an ATA memory card device that are selectively connected to a first interface (ATA) and a different second interface (USB). That is, Kiyoshi fails to

disclose two storage devices having a single interface that can be connected to two different interfaces through a memory board. For this reason, withdrawal of the §102(b) rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3, 11-15, and 20-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kobayashi (U.S. Patent No. 6,199,122). Applicant traverses the rejection for the reasons recited above with respect to the §102(b) rejection based on Kiyoshi.

Kobayashi is directed to a computer system, external storage, converter system, and recording medium for converting a serial command and data standard to a parallel one. Kobayashi has an adaptor 12 for connecting a USB interface 121 of a personal computer 11 to an ATA interface of a memory card 13. The adaptor includes a conversion controller 122 for converting the USB to the ATA, and an ATA controller 124 connects the memory card 13 to the conversion controller 122. However, Kobayashi fails to disclose or suggest the features now recited in independent claims 1 and 13, namely, the first and second interfaces being different in type of interface, and the two storage devices having a single interface that is connected to two different interfaces by the card or memory board.

In contrast, as shown in FIGs. 1-4 of the present application, the printed board 100 has two connectors corresponding to ATA connector 160 and USB connector 180. The first interface connector 160 is connected to a connection line between an interface circuit and memory card device. When connecting the second interface (USB),

the storage device and the memory card device are connected to an outside connection by the second interface connector 180. When connecting to the first interface (ATA), the storage device and the memory card device are connected to an outside connection by the first interface connector 160 and the interface connector of the storage device, and the storage device is a disk drive. Since Kobayashi fails to disclose or suggest the above features of the present application, withdrawal of the §102(b) rejection is respectfully requested.

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that this Application is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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